

What is claimed is:

1. A phase interpolator for adjusting a phase of differential clock signals of a receiver to a phase of a data from a transmitter, the phase interpolator comprising:
 - 5 an integrator configured to slew edges of differential clock signals adjusted to the phase of the data from the transmitter;
 - a output buffer configured to amplify an output of the integrator;
 - 10 a duty cycle correction circuit configured to feed duty correction signals back to the adjusted differential clock signals; and
 - a controller configured to ensure operations of an amplitude of the output buffer and a data read circuit
 - 15 in adjusting swings and duties of the adjusted differential clock signals.
2. The phase interpolator as claimed in claim 1, wherein the controller comprises a first comparison unit configured
 - 20 to determine whether or not the adjusted differential clock signals and the swings of the differential clock signals satisfy a standard voltage that the output buffer is able to amplify, wherein an output of the first comparison unit is coupled to a capacitor and an inverter
 - 25 to switch the inverter when a voltage of the output of the first comparison unit reaches a predetermined voltage,

wherein an output of the inverter is coupled to a gate of an NMOS transistor, wherein the NMOS transistor is coupled to the capacitor in the integrator and the adjusted differential clock signal, wherein the integrator is configured to change a capacitance of the capacitor in the integrator in accordance with switching the gate of the NMOS transistor.

3. The phase interpolator as claimed in claim 1, wherein the controller comprises:

a second comparison unit configured to determine whether or not the adjusted differential clock signals and the swings of the differential clock signals satisfy a predetermined voltage that output buffer is able to amplify;

a third comparison unit configured to generate a clock using the adjusted differential clock signals;

wherein an output of the second comparison unit is coupled to a data input of a first flip-flop, wherein an output of the third comparison unit is coupled to a delay circuit configured to generate a delayed clock signal from the output of the third comparison unit, wherein the first flip-flop receives the delayed clock signal to hit the output of the second comparison unit to output an output signal, wherein a data input of a second flip-flop and a NAND gate receives the output

signal, wherein a clock input of the second flip-flop receives delayed clock signal and hits the output of the first flip-flop to output it to the NAND gate, wherein an output of the NAND gate is coupled to a gate of an NMOS transistor, wherein the NMOS transistor is coupled to a capacitor in the integrator and the adjusted differential clock signal, wherein the integrator is configured to change a capacitance in the integrator to switch the gate of the NMOS transistor off when a differential voltage of the adjusted differential clock signal is smaller than a predetermined voltage.

4. The phase interpolator as claimed in claim 2, wherein the first comparison unit comprises:

a fourth comparison unit including:

- a positive input port configured to receive a first signal;
- a negative input port configured to receive a second signal; and
- a reference input port configured to receive a third signal ;

a fifth comparison unit including

- a positive input port configured to receive the second signal;
- a negative input port configured to receive the first

signal; and
a reference input port configured to receive the
third signal; and
an EXOR gate configured to receive an output of the
5 fourth comparison unit and fifth comparison unit to
output an exclusive OR operation of the fourth
comparison unit and fifth comparison unit.

5. The phase interpolator as claimed in claim 4, wherein the
10 fourth comparison unit and the fifth comparison unit
comprises:

a sixth comparison unit including:
a positive input port configured to receive a fourth
signal; and
15 a negative input port configured to receive a fifth
signal;
a seventh comparison unit including:
a positive input port configured to receive an output
of the sixth comparison unit; and
20 a negative input port configured to receive a sixth
signal; and
an inverter configured to receive an output of the
seventh comparison unit to invert the output of the
seventh comparison unit.

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6. The phase interpolator as claimed in claim 4, wherein the

controller includes a circuit configured to control the capacitance in the integrator, so as not to allow the swings to drop lower than a predetermined value.

- 5 7. The phase interpolator as claimed in claim 1, wherein the controller comprises a first operational amplifier configured to determine whether or not the swings of the adjusted differential clock signals and the differential clock signals are amplifiable by the output buffer,
- 10 wherein an output of the first operational amplifier is coupled to a capacitor and a inverter, wherein the inverter switches at a predetermined voltage, an output of the inverter is coupled to a gate of an NMOS transistor, the NMOS transistor is coupled to the capacitor and the
- 15 adjusted differential clock signal, wherein the integrator is configured to change the capacitance of the capacitor in the integrator according to switching the gate of the NMOS transistor,
- wherein the first operational amplifier comprises:
- 20 a second operational amplifier including:
- a positive input port configured to receive a first differential clock signal;
- a negative input port configured to receive a second differential clock signal; and
- 25 a reference input port configured to receive a reference signal ;

a third operational amplifier including:

a positive input port configured to receive the
second differential clock signal;

5 a negative input port configured to receive the first
signal; and

a reference input port configured to receive the
reference signal; and

an EXOR gate configured to receive an output of the
second operational amplifier and third operational
10 amplifier to output an exclusive OR operation of the
second operational amplifier and third operational
amplifier,

wherein the second and third operational amplifier
comprise:

15 a fourth operational amplifier configured to output a
comparison signal, the fourth operational amplifier
including:

a positive input port configured to receive the first
differential clock signal; and

20 a negative input port configured to receive the
second differential clock signal;

a fifth operational amplifier including:

a positive input port configured to receive the
comparison signal; and

25 a negative input port configured to receive the
reference signal;

an inverter configured to receive an output of the fifth operational amplifier to invert the output of the operational amplifier.

8. The phase interpolator as claimed in claim 1, wherein the controller comprises:

a sixth operational amplifier configured to determine whether or not the adjusted differential clock signals and the swings of the differential clock signals satisfy a predetermined voltage that the output buffer is able to amplify;

a seventh operational amplifier configured to generate a clock using the adjusted differential clock signal;

wherein an output of the sixth operational amplifier is coupled to a data input of a third flip-flop, wherein

an output of the seventh operational amplifier is coupled to a delay circuit configured to generate a delayed clock signal from the output of the seventh operational amplifier, wherein the third flip-flop receives the delayed clock signal to hit the output

of the sixth operational amplifier to output an output signal, wherein a data input of a fourth flip-flop and a NAND gate receives the output signal, wherein a clock input of the fourth flip-flop receives delayed clock signal and hits the output of the first flip-flop to

output it to the NAND gate, wherein an output of the NAND gate is coupled to a gate of an NMOS transistor,

wherein the NMOS transistor is coupled to a capacitor in the integrator and the adjusted differential clock signal, wherein the integrator is configured to change the capacitance of the capacitor in the integrator to switch the gate of the NMOS transistor off when a differential voltage of the adjusted differential clock signal is smaller than a predetermined voltage, wherein the sixth and seventh operational amplifier comprise:

- 10 a eighth operational amplifier including:
 - a positive input port configured to receive a first differential clock signal;
 - a negative input port configured to receive a second differential clock signal; and
 - 15 a reference input port configured to receive a reference signal ;
- a ninth operational amplifier including
 - a positive input port configured to receive the second differential clock signal;
 - 20 a negative input port configured to receive the first differential clock signal; and
 - a reference input port configured to receive the reference signal; and
- 25 an EXOR gate configured to receive an output of the eighth operational amplifier and the ninth operational amplifier to output an exclusive OR

operation of the eighth operational amplifier and the ninth operational amplifier,
wherein the eighth and ninth operational amplifier comprise:

5 a tenth operational amplifier including:

 a positive input port configured to receive the first differential clock; and

 a negative input port configured to receive the second differential clock;

10 a eleventh operational amplifier including:

 a positive input port configured to receive an output of the tenth operational amplifier; and

 a negative input port configured to receive the reference signal; and

15 an inverter configured to receive an output of the eleventh operational amplifier to invert the output of the eleventh operational amplifier.

9. A phase interpolator comprising:

20 an integrator configured to receive adjusted differential clock signals, the integrator configured to slew the differential clock signals;

 a output buffer configured to amplify an output of the integrator;

25 a duty cycle correction circuit configured to receive amplified signals from the output buffer to adjust

phases of the amplified signals, the duty cycle correction circuit configured to feed the adjusted signals back to the output buffer; and
a controller configured to control a rate of slewing the
5 differential clock signals carried out by the integrator, when swings of the differential clock signals are below a predetermined value.

10. The phase interpolator as claimed in claim 9, wherein the
10 controller comprises:

a first comparison unit configured to receive the differential clock signals and a first reference signal to compare a difference between the differential clock signals with the first reference signal, the first
15 comparison unit configured to output a first detection signal when the difference is smaller than the first reference signal; and

a first inverter configured to receive the first detection signal in order to invert the first detection signal.

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11. The phase interpolator as claimed in claim 10, wherein the controller comprises a first capacitor configured to store electrical charges of the first detection signal, wherein the first inverter switches the output signal when an output
25 node coupled to the first capacitor reaches a predetermined voltage.

12.The phase interpolator as claimed in claim 11, wherein the integrator comprises:

a second capacitor; and

5 a switching circuit coupled to the second capacitor the switching circuit configured to control the second capacitor according to an output of the first inverter.

13.The phase interpolator as claimed in claim 12, wherein the

10 switching circuit is a transistor, wherein the integrator further comprises a third capacitor coupled to a drain of the transistor.

14.The phase interpolator as claimed in claim 10, wherein at

15 least one of the first, second, and third comparison unit, comprise:

a fourth comparison unit configured to receive a first voltage according to a first signal of the differential clock signal, a second voltage according to a second signal of the differential clock signal, and a reference voltage according to a reference signal according to a reference signal to compare a voltage that is that is subtracted the second voltage from the first voltage with the reference voltage;

20 a fifth comparison unit configured to receive the first voltage, the second voltage, and the reference voltage

in order to compare a voltage that is the first voltage subtracted from the second voltage with the reference voltage;

5 an EXOR gate configured to receive the output of the fourth and fifth comparison unit to output an exclusive OR operation of the output of the fourth and fifth comparison unit.

15. The phase interpolator as claimed in claim 14, wherein at
10 least one of the fourth and fifth comparison unit comprise:
 a sixth comparison unit configured to receive the first and second voltage to output a voltage that is subtracted second voltage from the first voltage;
 a seventh comparison unit configured to receive an output
15 voltage of the sixth comparison unit and the reference voltage to output a voltage that is subtracted the reference voltage from the output voltage of the sixth comparison unit; and
 a second inverter configured to receive an output of the
20 seventh comparison unit to invert the output of the seventh comparison unit.

16. The phase interpolator as claimed in claim 9, wherein the controller comprises:
25 a second comparison unit configured to receive the differential clock signals and a second reference

signal to compare a difference between the differential clock signals with the second reference signal, the second comparison unit configured to output a second detection signal when the difference is smaller than the second reference signal;

5 a third comparison unit configured to generate a clock signal using the differential clock signals;

 a delay circuit configured to delay an output of the third comparison unit;

10 a first flip-flop configured to receive an output of the second comparison unit as a first data signal and an output of the delay circuit as a first clock signal to output the first data signal at a predetermined timing;

 a second inverter configured to receive the output signal

15 of the delay circuit and to invert the output signal of the delay circuit;

 a second flip-flop configured to receive an output of the first flip-flop as a second data signal and an output of the second inverter as a second clock signal to output

20 the second data signal at a predetermined timing; and

 a NAND gate configured to receive the outputs of the first and second flip-flops to output negative AND operation of the outputs of the first and second flip-flops.

25 17. The phase interpolator as claimed in claim 16, wherein at least one of the first, second, and third comparison unit,

comprise:

- 5 a fourth comparison unit configured to receive a first voltage according to a first signal of the differential clock signal, a second voltage according to a second signal of the differential clock signal, and a reference voltage according to a reference signal according to a reference signal to compare a voltage that is subtracted the second voltage from the first voltage with the reference voltage;
- 10 a fifth comparison unit configured to receive the first voltage, the second voltage, and the reference voltage to compare a voltage that is subtracted the first voltage from the second voltage with the reference voltage;
- 15 an EXOR gate configured to receive the output of the fourth and fifth comparison unit to output an exclusive operation of the output of the fourth and fifth comparison unit.
- 20 18. The phase interpolator as claimed in claim 17, wherein at least one of the fourth and fifth comparison unit comprises:
- a sixth comparison unit configured to receive the first and second voltage to output a voltage that is subtracted second voltage from the first voltage;
- 25 a seventh comparison unit configured to receive an output voltage of the sixth comparison unit and the reference

voltage to output a voltage that is subtracted the reference voltage from the output voltage of the sixth comparison unit; and

5 a second inverter configured to receive an output of the seventh comparison unit and to invert the output of the seventh comparison unit.

19.A phase interpolator comprising:

- a digital-analog converter configured to convert an inputted signal into a current;
- 10 a mixer configured to receive an output of the digital-analog converter and a clock, the mixer configured to shift a phase of the clock according to the output of the digital-analog converter to output a adjusted differential clock signals;
- 15 an integrator configured to receive the adjusted differential clock signals, the integrator configured to slew the differential clock signals;
- a output buffer configured to amplify an output of the integrator;
- 20 a duty cycle correction circuit configured to receive amplified signals from the output buffer to adjust phase of the amplified signals, the duty cycle correction circuit configured to feed the adjusted signals back to the output buffer; and
- 25 a controller configured to control a rate of the slewing the differential clock signals carried out by the

integrator, when swings of the differential clock signals are below a predetermined value.

20. A receiver comprising:

5 a phase interpolator including:

a digital-analog converter configured to convert an inputted signal into a current;

10 a mixer configured to receive an output of the digital-analog converter and a clock, the mixer configured to shift a phase of the clock according to the output of the digital-analog converter to output adjusted differential clock signals;

15 an integrator configured to receive data and adjusted differential clock signals, the integrator configured to slew the differential clock signals;

a output buffer configured to amplify an output of the integrator;

20 a duty cycle correction circuit configured to receive amplified signals from the output buffer to adjust a phase of the amplified signal, the duty cycle correction circuit configured to feed the adjusted signals back to the output buffer; and

25 a controller configured to control a rate of the slewing the differential clock signals carried out by the integrator, when swings of the differential clock signals are below a predetermined value; and

a data read unit configured to read a data using the output
of the output buffer.